

helicon 2



Progress Report 2

Helicon 2 will be held over the Easter weekend 2002 (March 29th to April 1st) at the Hotel De France in St Helier, Jersey. Our email address is helicon2@smof.demon.co.uk and our website is <http://www.helicon.org.uk>. Attending membership is £35 until 1st January 2002. Memberships should be sent to 33 Meyrick Drive, Wash Common, Newbury, Berks RG14 6SY

I ntroduction

On the eleventh of September, I decided to take a quick lunch break at the pub. Between leaving home and arriving, events that changed the world had happened. When I saw the pictures, I first thought that followers of Orson Wells were staging a play. Sadly it was all too real. The committee of Helicon 2 would like to offer our sympathies to everybody affected by these tragic events. There have been many repercussions, especially in the airline business. Some airlines have gone out of business, some have downsized and others such as Easy Jet are expanding. I hope these new conditions do not adversely affect your travel plans.

You will find your hotel booking form with this PR. The Hotel de France has been extensively refurbished since Helicon in 1993. It is considered to be one of the best hotels in Jersey. All the rooms are of a very high standard. Please try to book early. The amount of function space available to us depends on the number of bedrooms the convention uses. For those on a smaller budget, there are a number of other hotels and guest houses with prices from as little as £17 per person per night. There are also inclusive packages. A seven night break at the Rosslyn guest house costs £218 per person including flights from Gatwick. All UK envelopes will contain a Jersey Tourism brochure giving a list of hotels and guest houses.

The convention is coming along well. I am looking forward to welcoming our guests: Brian Stableford, Harry Turtledove and Peter Weston to Jersey. John Richards is continuing to expand the programme. We hope to have one of the strongest Eastercon programmes of recent years. We are also hoping to have the customary Jersey Banquet. If there is sufficient interest we will publish details in PR3.

As with previous Jersey conventions we have chosen the Gerald Durell Conservation Trust as our charity. We will try to repeat the 'Zoo Day', which was so popular at Contrivance and Helicon.

We do need volunteers to help with the convention. Like all Eastercons, we rely on everyone pitching in and spending a few hours sitting behind a desk, moving chairs or otherwise helping out. At the moment, we're especially in need of people to help with Tech Ops as well as just general gophers. If you want to help, please return the volunteer form included with this PR.

We now have a new web site, built for us by Cheryl Morgan. Visit us at helicon2.org.uk if you need more information about the convention. See you on Jersey.

Martin Hoare

H otel and Travel

The Hotel de France is considered to be one of the finest hotels in Jersey. The convention room rates are £55 pppn (per person per night) in a twin/double/triple. There are a limited number of single rooms at £60 per night. When these run out single occupancy of a twin room is £90 per night. The hotel has a small number of suites. Please contact us for details. The first child under 12 can share the parents' room for free. Subsequent children are half price. As has been the case with recent Eastercon hotels the Hotel de France requires a deposit of one night's accommodation. Full terms and conditions are on the booking form.

We have a travel agent on the island who can get discounts on Air and Ferry fares. They are Incentive & Conference Specialists, 7 David Place, St. Helier, Jersey JE2 4TD Tel: +44(0) 1534 877727 Fax: +44(0) 1534 872085 email: icsjersey@jerseymail.co.uk
Contact: Carole Oliver

The Helicon 2 web site also has links to airlines flying to Jersey and Condor Ferries. There are one conventional ferry and two fast ferries each day.

B rian Stableford

Multi-talented people are usually Renaissance Men in media-speak (while Renaissance Women do not exist; instead there are Superwomen). Brian is not really a Renaissance Man. He couldn't fresco the ceiling of a chapel to save his life, or improvise a sonnet in Tuscan dialect. Give him a lute, and he would smile politely and hand it back. If you were lucky. Mind you, like that first science-fiction artist Leonardo da Vinci, he has invented a few machines, that may or may not get built in the next five hundred years. And there is no doubt that he is multi-talented. He can play cricket; he can bet on race-horses and win, mostly; and he used to find poker quite profitable too. And he has all kinds of arcane expertise. If you ask him (and, sometimes, even if you don't) he will tell you far more than any sane person ought to want to know about Goth music, or about late nineteenth-century French decadents.

Don't ask him about Goth music in his living room, or he will start putting CDs on. Exit the living room quickly, turn right past the corridor of pre-War fantasy and sf, L to R, turn left into the corridor of pre-War fantasy and sf, R to Z, and go into the dining room. There, on the left hand wall, soon to *fill* the left hand wall, is the monument to the main Stableford talents. Shelf upon shelf of books that he has written, or edited, or written for.

There's no need to list them; and no space either. The highlights can be found in the Encyclopedias of Science Fiction and Fantasy. His first professional sale was when he was 17, in 1965. He wrote novels while a biology student at York, and continued as a DPhil student in the Biology Department and then (leaving all his flour beetles to die) as a DPhil student in Sociology. He became a sociologist at Reading University, until he realized he would have more fun (though not necessarily more money) as a full-time writer. Now he still does some university teaching (at King Alfred's, Winchester), but he is

more of a full-time writer than most full-time writers. I remember spending one New Year's Eve with him as he moaned about failing to reach his target of a million published words that year.

He has been writing superb science fiction for thirty years now; some excellent fantasy; and some of the most interesting science fiction and fantasy criticism too (two monographs, several volumes of collected essays, endless encyclopedia contributions, countless reviews). With some writers, one might be recommending books they published twenty years ago, but Brian is writing better than ever. Try some of the short stories and novellas he has published in the last few years, mostly in *Asimov's* or *Interzone*, at least one of which seems to end up in every Best of the Year collection from Gardner Dozois. Or read the excellent series that he has just finished, four books out so far, which started with *Inherit the Earth*. It's some of the best new British sf around, but it is not published in Britain, so no Arthur C. Clarke Award for him. When you meet him in Jersey, don't ask him about Goths, ask him about the state of British sf publishing...

Edward James

Shipping Stuff to Jersey

We've been examining what we can do in terms of shipping stuff to Jersey. We're almost certainly going to have a van of our own, and we're considering other possibilities. The dealers have also got together and started making arrangements.

However, we are aware that many of our members may have stuff they want to take with them that may be too expensive, delicate or heavy to go by air. WE MAKE NO PROMISES, but we are considering making arrangements to include this type of stuff in with our shipping.

I'm afraid we won't take dealer's goods. But if you have anything else please write to us with details: what the item is, how much it weighs and what size it is, how delicate it is, where it is now, how valuable it is, if you could transport it to possible central locations in the Midlands or South-East, and where it needs to be returned to. We need to know this as soon as possible, the earlier you can let us know the more likely this is to happen.

We'll consider taking anything, but we will give priority to things intended for general use - games, programme props, art, fanzines, auction books and the like.

Again we can make no promises, we may not do this at all, but we will try our best.

One thing we will guarantee, the van we use will not be a Tardis. When it's full, it's full.

Pat McMurray



P rogramme

Six months out and the programme should now be taking on definite shape. Well, at least we now know the physical limitations we are faced with.

The Hotel De France offers one excellent room. The Main Auditorium in the Lido seats 600 theatre style and comes with a full set of lights and PA. This will obviously be our grand set and will hold the Opening and Closing ceremonies, Guest of Honour solo spots and Masquerade. We can also plan on putting other items in there, providing that we don't get hit on for technical charges, fitting round requirements for set up and strike. In the main building we have one 120 seat room, The Golden Bar, one 80 seat room, The Giffard, one 40 seat room with a large TV, the Verclut, and one without, the Sorrel. We also have a room for Gaming and another for Chaos Costuming. Hey ho! At least fixing the boundaries mean that we can start finding our way to a solution.

So we are looking at a stream comprising of Grand Events with gaps for rehearsals etc. which means that one needn't constrain ones self to the hour long slot. A second stream of, necessarily, more intimate discussion items and room for one or two more informal items spaced and running at random. (Well not at random on the day. On the day we'll have worked out when we want them to start and where they are going to be. I just meant that we can give them two or three hours and let them run. Whoever would think I meant at random on the day...) Unfortunately we don't have the space to dedicate to a 24 hour video programme. Nor for my radio stream. Still we can still play one or two items over night. How about running the Journey Into Space serials from Midnight to Breakfast?

We're running an Eastercon so there are certain things we have to do. Not because they are written in stone or in any charter. There is no Eastercon charter so theoretically we could do whatever we liked. However if we missed off certain things the possibilities of our getting off Jersey alive could be seriously reduced.

We have to have the Masquerade, the Art Auction, the Book Auction and the Bidding session. The Art Auction has to be on Sunday in order to keep the Art Show open for as long as possible while still giving the folks in charge a chance to get the finances sorted out before the end of the Convention. The only similar constraint on the Book Auction that I am currently aware of is that it must not be on at the same time as the Art Auction so we can move that to Saturday. (At least if we can't no one has yet told me. Let's hope that the idea that no one ever reads these things is a myth. If there is a good reason I want to hear about it before it's too late.) The Masquerade has traditionally been on Saturday but I've been told by people in the Costume Workshop that an extra day would give them a chance to do all sorts of extra wonderful things so let's move it to Sunday this year. The Banquet can go on Saturday – this isn't really a Programming matter but we still have to take into account that it may prove difficult to get people to do items against it. Transport problems mean that we can't do a firework display however if anyone can come up with ideas for a spectacular item that we can put on we still have space.

Our guests also add shape. Harry Turtledove's presence naturally leads to thoughts of history, discussions on the American Civil War and the First World War (I've already got volunteers to put an opposing case to his ideas on that.) Brian Stableford makes one consider the sociological impact of science, building consistent and cohesive societies with

politics that seem real without being overly familiar. Peter Weston, of course, brings a mass of information on fandom, who we are, why we are here and in the end does it matter that ‘fings ain’t what they used to be. (Query: were they worse better or just different?) He also knows more silly games and traditions than anyone else I can think of.

Then we have the programming sub-committee and all the bees currently buzzing in our bonnets. We want to start off with the Big Bang and end with the Heat Death Of The Universe or the nearest equivalents we can manage. We want to run a short film appreciation work shop and a pub crawl of Jersey. We want to discuss the motion that scientific progress has been advanced more by poverty than by riches. We want to involve historians, scientists and people who can tell “just so” stories. I want another opportunity to be really rude about Star Trek in front of an audience again (but can probably restrain myself). And we want to run another election to decide who rules the Universe. The current ruler still lives on one of the speaker stacks at Peter and Anne Wright’s house but his batteries are running down and cries of “Yak fat! Yak fat!” still haunt my dreams. (It all makes sense if you were there last time.)

John Richards

M embership List (as of 29 Sept 2001)

412	Abbott, Mike	285	Blair, Paul	186	Cooper, Stephen
361	Alexander, Iain	185	Bloom, Kent	312	Cosslett, Keith
266	Allcock, Lisa	145	Boekestein, Jaap	341	Cowie, Jonathan
267	Allcock, Philip	145	Boekestein, Jaap	363	Cox, Adrian
119	Allwood, Paul	395	Booth, Duncan	508	Cray, Paul
256	Ameringen, Brian	396	Booth, Jucy	284	Croft, A J ‘Andy’
229	Anderson, Diane	326	Bospoort, Wim van de	368	Croughton, Chris
234	Anderson, John	227	Böttcher, Hans-Ulrich	189	Crow, Johathan
499	Anderson, Kevin	162	Bradshaw, Bridget	62	Cruttenden, 1/2 r
236	Anglemark, Johan	169	Bradshaw, Simon	666	Cruttenden, Wendy
259	Armstrong, Andrew	372	Braithwaite, Michael	219	Culpin, Rafe
268	Armstrong, Helen	161	Branscombe, Mary	164	Curry, David
404	Austin, Margaret	445	Bray, John	270	Dallman, John
469	Bacon, James	211	Brialey, Claire	204	Damesick, Mike
126	Baker, Dr. A.C.	124	Brignal, Gordon	466	Davidson, Christine
307	Balen, Henry	184	Brown, John	485	Davidson, Michael Fergus
473	Ballantyne, Barbara	199	Buckley, E.D.	299	Davies, Stephen
475	Ballantyne, Robin	233	Burns, Bill	331	Dawe, Martyn
474	Ballantyne, Tony	123	Burns, Jackie E.	224	Dawson, Guy
188	Barker, Trevor	232	Burns, Mary	280	Dawson, Susan
438	Barton, Andrew	249	Burton West, Roger	388	Day, Robert
362	Baxter, Stephen	461	Cain, Jonathan	333	Day, Ros
135	Beach, Covert	460	Cain, Marianne	298	De Cesare, Giulia De
27	Bell, Chris	459	Cain, Steven	304	De Weerdt, Peter
444	Bell, Doug	149	Callan, Simon	217	De Wolfe, Simon Mark
182	Bellingham, Alan	360	Carlisle, David	325	Dearn, Simon
354	Bemis, Judith C	253	Carnall, Jane	391	Dessau, Ben
380	Bennett, Ron	426	Cartwright, Joanne	167	Deterding-Barker, Zoe
417	Benson, Austin	389	Chrystal, Ewan	481	Dickson, Gillian
483	Benzler, Meike	125	Clements, Dave	198	Docherty, Vincent
218	Bernardi, Michael	134	Cochrane, David Eddie	528	Donald, Elsie
462	Berry, Tony	274	Cohen, Malcolm	177	Donaldson, Christine
439	Binfield, Pete	293	Cohen, Peter	181	Dormer, Paul
160	Bisson, Simon	413	Collyer, Noel	375	Dowsing, Freddy
301	Björklind, Thomas	346	Cooling, bridgid	171	Drysdale, David
342	Blackie	289	Cooper, Chris	237	Dunn, Owen
332	Blackwell, Paul	464	Cooper, Kate	400	Dunn, Owen

104	Dunn, Stephen	503	Hurry, Alison	115	Mol, Marianne
367	Earnshaw, Roger	500	Hurry, Graeme	311	Morgan, Cheryl
403	Easterbrook, Martin	502	Hurry, Helen	252	Morgan, Chris
428	Easthope, Cathy	501	Hurry, Pam	250	Morgan, Pauline
414	Edlund, Laurie	194	Illingworth, Marcia Kelly	196	Morley, Tim
279	Edwards, Lynn	193	Illingworth, Tim	200	Morman, Mary
180	Edwards, Sue	478	Jackson, Ian	328	Morse, Lynne Ann
526	Eldred, Alison	258	James, Daniel	287	Mowbray, Steve
147	Ellingsen, Herman	440	James, Edward	273	Mullan, Caroline
261	Ellis, Sean	153	James, Rhodri	524	Murosako, Susan
262	Ellis, Tamasin	377	James, Wilf	454	Nanson, Philip
102	Emmerich, Udo	392	Jarrold, John	409	Nanson, Tom
471	Emsley, Iain	399	Jeapes, Ben	511	Nash, Darren
197	Ent, Jan van 't	314	Jezard, Neil	512	Nash, Michele
529	Evans, Bernie	470	Jude, Dick	442	Nerdoss, Andrew
239	Ewing, Allison	453	Kari	506	Norén, Karl-Johan
240	Ewing, Calum	276	Keen, Tony	521	Norman, Eva
241	Ewing, Fergus	386	Kennaway, Richard	255	Norman, Lisanne
522	Farmer, David	374	Kerr, Morag	347	Oborn, Keith
130	Figg, Mike	122	Kievits, Peter	398	Oborn, Krystyna
429	Finch, David Allan	509	King, Vicky	402	Odel, James
357	finder, jan howard	422	Kohler, Alice	221	O'Donnell, Andrew
278	Fine, Colin	356	Labonville, 'Janne	109	O'Hanlon, Rod
108	Flatt, Brian	369	Laight, David	376	O'Hanrahan, Caitlin
129	Flood, Ronan	443	Lake, Christina	176	Oldroyd, Paul
451	Fotheringham, Lynn	158	Lally, Dave	292	O'Neill, Ken
174	Francis, Susan	448	Langhammer, Andrew	507	Paolini, Paul
150	Frihagen, Anders	494	Latham, Eira	228	Pargman, Michael
505	Frish, Wolfgang	432	Laverack, Kris	355	Parker, Tony
498	Frost, Marry	415	Lavery, Peter	223	Parry, Arwel
207	Funnell, Gwen	209	Lawson, Alice	435	Parson, Brian
336	Furniss, T.J.	210	Lawson, Steve	230	Patterson, Andrew
515	Gallagher, Ellen	482	Liscard, Jim de	144	Patterson, Joan
514	Gallagher, Marilyn	373	Long, Gavin	220	Patton, Andrew
513	Gallagher, Stephen	295	Loveridge, Caroline	215	Peek, Bernard
467	Garratt, Peter	303	Lundwall, Karin	290	Perera, Mali
313	Gibbons, Joe	302	Lundwall, Sam J.	335	Perkins, Roger
364	Gomez Lagerlöf, Carolina	128	Mabey, Peter	190	Persson, Tommy
527	Goodall, Clare	455	MacGregor, Duncan	390	Petty, Heather
327	Goudriaan, Roelof	510	MacKintosh, Alasdair	447	Peyton, Arline
106	Grant, Simon	103	MacLaughlin, Bobby	446	Peyton, Rog
205	Grover, Steve	269	MacNeil, Helen	195	Phillips, Val
225	Gunnarson, Urban	277	MacNeil, Justin	420	Plumby, Phil
344	Hall, Pia	449	Malme, Chris	212	Plummer, Mark
472	Hammega, Erik	358	Marchand, Deb	306	Porter, Andrew
351	Hammond, Paul	421	Marsland, Keith	155	Pritchard, Ceri
350	Hammond, Robert	208	Maughan, Ian	452	Proctor, Judith
349	Hammond, Tony	156	Maughan, Janet	456	Proctor, Kelvin
294	Harris, Colin	157	Maughan, Robert	136	Putte, Larry van der
316	Harrison, Harry	379	Maynard, Alistair	378	Ray, Dannielle
315	Harrison, Joan	365	McCullough, Alastair	179	Reap, Colette
477	Harrison, Sue	366	McLean, Pat	101	Recktenwald, Thomas
387	Hartley, James	159	McLean, Rory	383	Redfarn, Peter
334	Harvey, David	407	McLeod, Scotty	187	Rees, John C.
183	Headlong, Julian	495	McLintock, Alex	497	Reuterswärd, Anders
154	Heitlager, Martijn	424	Meades, Hazel	492	Reuterswärd, Patrik
116	Held, Jim	425	Meades, Leo	140	Reynolds, Patricia
238	Hepburn, Alasdair K.	423	Meades, Rob	172	Reynolds, Trevor
139	Hoare, Martin	343	Mee, Laurence	263	Rigby, Julie Faith
463	Hobson, Andrew	441	Mendlesohn, Farah	201	Robinson, Roger
352	Holl, Geoff	110	Meredith, John	112	Rogers, Tony
231	Hollingsworth, Mary Ann	282	Miller, Andrew	202	Rogerson, Steve
322	Holström, Anders	286	Miller, Judith	137	Rosenblum, Howard
214	Horst, Marc ter	281	Miller, Ray	138	Rosenblum, June
330	Horvei, Sidsel	283	Miller, Sue	296	Rosenblum, Michelle
251	Housden, Valerie	484	Mills, Nick	213	Rothman, Stephen
353	Hunt, Terry	476	Mobbs, Andrew	105	Rowland, Marcus

275	Sachs, Marjorie	133	Strandberg, Lars	309	Vasilkovsky, Alexander
151	Sapienza Jr., John T.	468	Stratmann, Gary	345	Waldie, Gordon
152	Sapienza, Peggy Rae	486	Stratmann, Linda	496	Walker, Nick
458	Scott, Alison	247	Streets, Marcus	173	Waller, Mark
245	Scott, Mike	248	Streets, Rae	206	Wareham, Peter
131	Shepherd Figg, Janet	329	Sund, Björn Torre	431	Watson, Ian
191	Shipman, Linda I.	288	Swan, Lesley	433	Watson, Jessica
394	Shorrock, Gavin	127	Taylor, Alison	297	Webb, Alan
393	Shorrock, Ina	419	Taylor, Graham	291	Webb, Gerry
308	Sieber, Rene	178	Taylor, Ian	305	Weller, W. A.
175	Sinclair, Mark	427	Taylor, Jeff	488	Westhead, Karen
382	Slater, Ken	410	Teddy	491	Westhead, Kathy
479	Smith, Lisa	321	Ternent, Calvin	490	Westhead, Mike
480	Smith, Martin	319	Ternent, George	489	Westhead, Peter
166	Smithers, Dan	320	Ternent, Linda	GOH06	Weston, Eileen
436	Smithers, Jane	520	Thaning, Sten	GOH03	Weston, Peter
165	Smithers, Lucy	434	The Barred, Klugger	405	Wheatley, Richard
493	SMS	359	Thompson, Jean	216	Whitehead, Nik
523	Smullen, Russell	192	Tibbetts, J.R.	348	Whysall, Kim
397	Sneddon, Robert	143	Tibs	265	Whyte, Charles
437	Soley Barton, Kate	163	Tompkins, Dave	525	Wickstrom, Doug
408	Sorrell, Janice	257	Tompkinson, Deborah	141	Wightman, Colin
117	Southern, Christopher	339	Toorn, Angelique van	142	Wightman, Sarah
113	Southern, Jennifer	337	Toorn, Annabel van	401	Wilkinson, Bridget
170	Spiller, Michael	340	Toorn, Kees van	411	Wilson, Anne
GOH01	Stableford, Brian	338	Toorn, Lennart van	418	Wilson, Caroline
GOH04	Stableford, Guest of Brian	457	Traish, Barry	518	Winship, Alexandra
465	Staflin, Lennart	260	Treadway, Paul	516	Winship, Paul
242	Stage, Jesper	254	Tucker, Frances	519	Winship, Rebecca
371	Steel, Friend of James	GOH05	Turtledove, Guest of Harry	517	Winship, Theresa
370	Steel, James	GOH02	Turtledove, Harry	146	Wisse, Martin
450	Stephenson, Andrew	132	Twine, Terry	118	Woodford, Alan
264	Stepney, Susan	226	Ulvang, Cristina Pulido	114	Woodford, Anne
243	Stewart, Barbara	222	Ulvang, Tor Christian	203	Yallow, Ben
244	Stewart, John	111	Valois, Tobes	406	Young, Mark
416	Stocks, Chris	310	Vasilkovska, Olena		

Rates

Helicon's address is 33 Meyrick Drive, Wash Common, Newbury, Berks RG14 6SY
 Attending membership is £35, supporting/junior (12-16) £18 until 1/1/2002. Child (6-11) membership is £5. Please note that all membership details will be held on our database but will not be given, lent or sold to anyone else, except the 2003 Eastercon.

Helicon 2, 33 Meyrick Drive, Wash Common, Newbury, Berks RG14 6SY

I enclose £..... for attending/supporting memberships of Helicon 2

Name: _____

Address: _____